Fast-Track Courts for environment disputes

1397. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up new Fast-Track Courts to settle environment disputes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the details of such courts that are proposed to be set up in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no proposal to set up Fast Tract Courts to settle environment disputes. The Law Commission in its 186th Report had recommended setting up of Environment Courts for dealing with Environmental disputes besides having appellate jurisdiction in respect of appeals under the various Pollution Control Laws. With certain modifications, the recommendations of the Law Commission to establish Environment Tribunal for groups/States for effective and expeditious disposal of Civil Cases, where a substantial question of Environment Protection, including enforcement of legal rights relating to environment is involved, has been accepted. No such separate Tribunal is proposed to be set up in the State of Orissa.

Vacant posts of judges

†1398. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI:
SHRI MAHENDRA SAHNI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of judges lying vacant as on date in the Supreme Court/High Courts/District Courts including Sessions Courts;

(b) by when these posts are likely to be filled up; and

(c) the details of the norms to be followed to fulfil the vacant posts?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.